

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 031201Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 969

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 0657

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PINT SL

SUBJECT: PARTIAL RESHUFFLE OF GOSL CABINET

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING CHANGES IN GOSL CABINET ANNOUNCED APRIL 1:

A. F.M. MINAH, PREVIOUSLY MINISTER TRADE AND INDUSTRY,
NAMED MININSTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPLACING DESMOND E.F.
ULKE WHO RESIGNED MARCH 21 (FREETOWN 572);

B. BANGALI MANSARAY, PREVIOUSLY MININSTER INTERIOR, NAMED
MINISTER TRADE AND INDUSTRY VICE MINAH;

C. A.G.LAPPIA, PREVIOUSLY DEPUTY MINISTER INTERIOR, NAMED
MINISTER INERIOR VICE MANSARAY;

D. A.B. FOFANA, PREVIOUSLY DEPUTY MINISTER TRADE AND
INDUSTRY, NAMED DEPUTY MINISTER INTERIOR VICE LAPPIA;

E. DANIELD KELFALLA, PREVIOUSLY DEPUTY MINISTER FINANCE,
NAMED DEPUTY MINISTER TRADE AND INDUSTRY VICE FOFANA;

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F. TOM SMITH, PREVIOUSLY DEPUTY MINISTER FINANCE, NAMED

MINISTER OF STATE AND LEADER OF THE HOUSE VICE S.D.
KOROMA WHO LOSES CABINET RANK;

G. T.E. JUANA, NEW TO CABINET, NAMED SOLE DEPUTY MINISTER
FINANCE REPLACING BOTH DELFALLA AND SMITH;

H. L.P. ALLEN, RETURNS TO CABINET IN RE-ESTABLISHED POSITION
OF DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, WHICH HE HELD AT EARLIER TIME.

2. FORMER MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WAS REDESIGNATED MINISTRY
FOREIGN AFFAIRS MARCH 14.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: RESHUFFLE APPEARS BE
COMBINATION OF CHAIN OF MOVES NEEDED REFILL MONMIN SLOT VACATED
BY LUKE RESIGNATION PLUS SOME SHIFTS WHICH PRESIDENT STEVENS
APPARENTLY WISHED MAKE ANYWAY. STEVENS KNOWN HAVE BEEN
DISSATISFIED WITH PERFORMANCE OF S.D. KOROMA AS LEADER OF HOUSE.
NEW FONMIN MINAH, SON OF A PARAMOUNT CHIEF FROM KRIM CHIEFDOM,
SOUTHERN PROVINCE, IS URBANE, A LAWYER AND FORMER MEMBER OF
SLPP WHO MADE DEXTROUS SHIFT TO APC PRIOR 1973 ELECTION. HE IS
CONSIDERED BY SOME TO BE ONE OF BRIGHTEST MEMBES OF CABINET.
MINAH HAS REPUTATION IN BUSINESS COMMUNITY AS PERSON THAT
ESTABLISHED COMPANIES CAN WORK WITH COOPERATIVELY BUT ALSO HAS
REPUTATION AS HAVING GREATLY ENRICHED HIMSELF DURING TENURE AS
MINISTER, PARTICULARLY AT EXPENSE OF SMALLER INVESTORS SEEKING
ESTABLISH NEW PROJECTS. A USG GRANTEE IN 1969, MINAH HAD LESS
THAN SATISFACTORY TRIP TO US, BUT HAS SHOWN FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TO
EMBOFF RECENTLY. HIS VIEWS FOREIGN AFFAIRS NOT KNOWN.

4. NEW MIN TRADE AND INDUSTRY MANSARAY, A TEMNE WITH LONG
TIES WITH VP S.I. KOROMA, RETURNS TO POST HE HELD
IN 1970-71, SINCE THEN HE HAS BEEN RESIDENT MINISTER NORTHERN
PROVINCE (1971-73) AND MIN INTERIOR. MEMBER OF APC SINCE
SWITCHING FROM SLPP IN 1962. HE REPORTEDLY HAS EQUAL DESIRE
BUT LESS FORCEFULNESS IN SELF-ENRICHMENT THAN MINAH.
SAMUELS

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